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APPLICATION NO.	FILING	DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/738,127 12/15/2000		/2000	Larry B. Li	50944.9900	9821	
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Thomas V. DelRosario				EXAMINER		
SNELL & WIL			DEMAKIS, JAMES A			
One Arizona Center				DLWI MIO,	JANES A	
400 East Van E		•		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2202						
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extentions of time may be available under the provision of 3 CPR 1.35(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled Extentions of the reply significate under the provision of 3 CPR 1.35(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled If the period for reply significate under the provision of 3 CPR 1.35(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled or reply significate one by the provision of the second provision. Final provision of the second provision of the second provision of the second provision of the second provision. Final provision of the second provision of the second provision of the second provision of the second provision. Final provision of the second provision of the second provision of the second provision of the second provision. Final provision of the second provision of					
Office Action Summary Degr38,127	~		Application No.	Applicant(s)	IL
James A Demakts 2336			09/738,127	LI, LARRY B.	
- The MALING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Examinate of time may be saviation under the provisions of 3 CR 1.13(lp). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, as reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, as reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, as reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, as reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, as reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, as reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period of orally is a statutory period will always and will desire the specified or reply replication is one-final. 3 [Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4 [Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4 [Since this application is in condition for all side or the condition of the day of the priority documents from consideration. 5 [Claim(s)] 1.24.7.9.10.12.14.16.		Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
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A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be waited under the provisions of 3 CFR 1.35(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled Extensions of time may be waited between 50 CFR 1.35(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled If the period for reply signified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply which the statulory private may be the considered timely. If the period for reply signified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply which the statulory privated may be part of the spirit (30) and the second part of the second part of the spirit (30) and the second part of the spirit (30) and the second part of the second part of the spirit (30) and the second part of the s			pears on the cover sheet wi	ith the correspondence addr	ess
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-7,9,10,12-14,16,17 and 19 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some *c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121. **Ratachement(s) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	A SH THE I - Exter after - If the - If NO - Failu - Any r eame	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPL MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. nsions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1. SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a rep openiod for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period re to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statut reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing	136(a). In no event, however, may a rely within the statutory minimum of thin will apply and will expire SIX (6) MON e, cause the application to become AB	reply be timely filed ty (30) days will be considered timely. ITHS from the mailing date of this common the mailing date of the common the mailing date of the common the common that the co	nunication.
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Application/Control Number: 09/738,127

Art Unit: 2836

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 2. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Merrill (EPPN 0435047).

Regarding Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 19:

Merrill discloses a clamping circuit 26 as part of an ESD circuit of Figure 2; which shows in, the "lower" clamping circuit, an NPN transistor connected in a diode type connection of collector to Vss or ground, base through a resistance to ground, and the emitter to a pad 18, which has source inputs requiring protection. This circuit could function without the trigger controls of circuit 24 which has an interface to the power-up of the overall chip assembly of a circuit 10; thereby, protecting pad 18 or equivalent network bus or transmission-line, etc; given the device constraints and requirements as claimed. Additionally, polarity changes can be accommodated by appropriate and conventional device selection.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3,8,11,15,18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Response to Arguments

1-19

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim*** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A Demakis whose telephone number is 703.305.7938. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on 703.308.3119. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703.308.7721 for regular communications and 703.308.7721 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703.308.0956.

James A. Demakis April 19, 2003

STEPHEN W. JACKSON PRIMARY EXAMINER